

Katimavik School Council – Minutes

Meeting date: Wednesday, Feb 25th 2015

Attendance: Teri MacDonald, Megan Venner, Kim Esdaile, Sara Cummings, Harry DeRoo, Claudette Nyenhuis, Carla Backmeier, Deidre Mander, Jeff Gervais, Violet

1. Meeting called to order at 7:06.
2. Approval of agenda: Carla/Kim
3. Minutes from Jan 28th meeting approved: Carla/Sara

4. Chair's Report

Long Term Planning committee- Sara will put a list together of possible grand ideas and will forward them to Kim for discussion at the staff meeting. The information gathered will be handed out to parents in a newsletter that will be coming out in March/April.

Zone meeting update with Christine Boothby - There will be training for teachers coming up in the spring to prepare them of the new Health Education curriculum. The implementation date is 2015-2016 and the curriculum is available on the Board Website. High schools can now hold prom events (with strict guidelines) instead of having to use a third party. There have been changes to the gifted program, and all of the details are on the Board Website. The Board is currently holding budget talks. Parents need to contact Christine Boothby with any feedback they have regarding the programs being offered. Copy all trustees in your email. There will be a mental health clinic at Stephen Leacock on April 16th.

Bulletin Board/Newsletter - The Council Bulletin Board located across the hall from the office, has now been reclaimed. There is always a struggle to come up with ways to better communicate with the parent community. A Newsletter will be coming home after March Break. Teachers will have an electronic version to send to their parent lists. There will be a parent meet up at CES on Mar 6th. The topic of discussion will be CES/KES communities working together.

Mar 11th – Raising Resilient kids. Harry and John Robertson will be helping parents learn how to raise resilient kids. There will be student artwork on display. Megan will communicate with other school councils in Kanata.

5. Principal's Report – Jeff Gervais

Jeff has started talking to teachers about what they might like to teach next year. We will be at around 333 students, which is down 60 students from this year. This will put us under capacity. We currently have 124 grade 8s leaving, and only 59 grade 3s coming from CES. In April, Jeff will have more

information as staffing numbers will be finalized, and seniority lists will be generated. Jeff will announce the final class lists and teachers on the first day of school in September.

The School blog has a new look. Jeff has also given access to update the blog to Laura Quirk, the Junior team leader, and Lisa Irwin, the Intermediate team leader.

Jeff has requested that all teachers provide a cover letter to go with any field trip permission form. The letter is to explain to parents how the field trip ties into the curriculum.

Feb –

Report cards went home. The intermediate grades went to the Canal. The grade 8's are doing transition activated with Earl of March. IEPs went home. Harry has been helping the kids complete the Tell Them from Me surveys. The process is complete, and feedback is received within 48 hours. The school collected \$227.00 for Twonie Tuesday. The funds raised go to the Education Foundation. Jeff advised that a school like KES might access \$1000.00 from the Education Foundation to help kids pay for miscellaneous items. There will be a Twin Day on Feb 26th. CLIK fundraising dinner Feb 26th.

On Friday, the Grade 8s are going by bus, to the Earl of March for a Youth Talk conference. Jeff decided to pay for the bus out of the school budget so that the kids attending can get a good start to the day.

On Mar5th, the grade 8s will be going to the Earl of March to see their production – Fiddler on the Roof.

The Juniors winter activities days ended. The Kourier was contacted, and there will be an article.

School Learning Plan - On May 1st, Miriam Small will work with the staff. Six groups of kids have been identified to participate in a Level Literacy Intervention. They meet twice a week and work on reviewing phonics.

The enrolment demographic is changing. There will be a larger Junior division than Intermediate. Jeff needs to know what parents value, what teachers want, and what kids want. This is a possible discussion point for the Meetup at KES in April. "What are your hopes and dreams for KES?"

6) Teacher's Report – Kim Esdaile

Mme. Ramsden would like to thank the School Council for the yoga mats. There have been weekly intramurals taking place. There has been a positive reaction from kids, and they feel welcome. The three outdoor winter activities days were a success. Thank you to the School Council for providing the funds for hot chocolate. Nathalie Ramsden has been holding a skating club on Wed after school. M. Bedard has been busy with Jr. Volleyball. Basketball will start after March break. The Beat It basketball tournament will be taking place. All interested students can participate. Badminton tryouts will occur in April. Thank you to the parents that have organized the ice rink. Thank you to Harry for acquiring the gently used equipment. There will be 30 grade 6's writing a math test on Thursday. Ms. Wilson will be organizing the annual Variety Show. There will be an evening performance on Jun 15th, and two daytime

shows on the 16th. A blog post will follow. The grade 8s will be going to “youth talks” at Earl. This is a student run education conference. The grade 5s are going to the Diefenbunker Mar 9-13 for a special program.

Violet - The Spirit Committee will be having a Rainbow Week in April. The topic and its connection to the LGBT acceptance movement are in preliminary discussions. There will be a twin day coming up.

The teachers appreciate the Laminating that is sponsored by the Council. Thank you Glenn!

7. OCASC – notes provided by Jennifer Christopher

Chalk it up

Charity Fundraiser

Maple Ridge

Allencyn@hotmail.com

Who does and chooses what external fundraising (charity) that the school does. Is it parents, teachers or parent Council?

- 1st Ave has a Philanthropist club who has both staff and parents involved to help the children choose a limited number of charities to support throughout the year
- Lake view counsel has created a policy in its constitution and all charity events must be chosen by counsel

AED's

Stone Craft

Defibrillator, does your school have one?

There are a number of things to consider if a school is looking at getting an AED.

- The cost of the unit
- The cost to have more than one person trained on how to use the unit
- The cost of maintenance (battery replacement every few months and after each usage)
- Accessibility/location of the unit

The cost of a unit is around \$1200 however the training and maintenance costs can be more prohibited. (No number were mentioned) If for some reason there is no one trained (over time) the cost of the removal of the unit is a consideration. There must be a member of staff who takes on the responsibility to ensure that the unit has been maintained and is in good working condition. From the Board: This is not a school board mandate. Therefore if a school wishes to install an AED, the cost of training, installation, maintenance would come out of the schools budget.

Junior Achievement Ottawa Network for Education rkack@onferope.ca

They offer 4 different programs teaching children about entrepreneur ship. The programs are geared for children in grades 5, 7 and 8. They require parent volunteers for the program to run

smoothly. The Ottawa Network for Education will provide on line training for interested parents.

Pick up/Drop off challenges Sir Winston Churchill caragraybaas@gmail.com

Maple ridge contacted bi law officers with little effect, they sent home notes to parents however it was not until the Principal and VP went outside during the challenging times and managed the parent's behavior that there was an improvement. Maple ridge has also contacted Bi law and their SRO , they are now looking at having an unmarked car available to ticket parents disregarding the signage. Bridlewood had issues with parents, contacted bi law but had difficulties getting bi law officers arrive at the proper time. Things did not improve until the principal and VP were involved. John Young also struggled with this challenge, again called bi law but again found it ineffective, they are still having struggles but it's improving as now the principal is outside directing parents as to where they can and cannot park. A few of the comments that were brought up:

The schools that had the principals involved did so after having staff and volunteer parents verbally attacked by parents who were frustrated with having to park further away from the school legally and walk to the school to pick up their child.

It was suggested that a social medial wall of shame be created. Photos of the offending vehicle are permitted just not the driver.

There was a suggestion of having children had out tickets to the parents who are parked illegally as well as the parents who are parking inappropriately such as on the school yard, sidewalks, on the grass (up on a snow bank) blocking traffic flow etc.

The discussion was halted at this point due to time

Book Fair - Stephen Leacock is hosting a French book fair taking place Wed, Feb25, from 2 – 8 pm for interested families. All proceeds are to be used for their library

Trustee Update Chris Ellis (?)

The board is starting to look at schools as community hubs. Such as having nurses available at high schools. Trying to look at more ways to utilize the schools to make them more efficient and cost effective. Input will be offered to the public as to how you see the school integrating into the community. No date given

The EDP program is going well with a few growing pains. If there are challenges parents are having with the EDP please contact your trustee. They are aware of some of the challenges and would like to work with parents to solve them.

Because of the EDP schools and playgrounds are being used for longer periods of times. There is concern over adult to child ratio when children go out doors to play and there are a mix of EDP children and other families using the facility. Again please let the trustee know if this is a challenge for us.

The Budget will be happening soon. The mandate from the province is that the funding will be “flat” this year. There is discussion about closing schools and looking at accommodations that may be up for discussion

Next guest to attend the meeting is Mike Carson

School Transportation Vicky Kyriaco OSTA

Changes have been finalized with both the Bell time review and with walk zones. All maps are now available on the OSTA web page. The Bell times are finalized and no longer available for change. Vicky discussed the number of public consultations about the changes to the walk zones. They were well advertised but sadly were poorly attended. The OSTA web page will have listed all of the times that they had made available to the public on their web pages.

The walk zones have been finalized there is an appeal process if anyone would like to challenge the walk zones in their area. They will only look at the appeal for the following reasons

- 1) They must demonstrate that staff did not follow procedure or showed negligence in determining the walk zone in their area
- 2) There is new information that was overlooked such as more accidents at an intersection creating a new hazard area
- 3) Safety issues that staff inadvertently over looked.

OSTA will be communicating with negatively affected parents by letter between April and May of this year. At this point parents who now qualify for bussing (and had not before) will not be contacted. Vicky mentioned that there are two types of schools, those that prepare before a change and those who react to the change. She did discuss the walking buss in as much as to say that proactive schools will have more success. When asked about snow days and cold weather days the response was it's up to the parents to choose to let their children walk. However, at this time there will be no cold weather warnings from OSTA. It will be expected for children as young as age three to walk up to the 1.5 km in all weather conditions to school.

Due to a decision from the Human Rights Commission there will now be bussing available to families who share custody of children. Because of this decision there will no longer be any cross boundary transportation of children on OSTA busses. Variable transportation will be available with the following conditions Both homes must qualify for bussing. Such as they must

be outside of the walk zone but inside the schools boundaries Application for bussing must be made by BOTH parents. Separate forms must be filled out and all information be matching.

OSTA will only accept the following three custody schedules:

- 2-2 3 (mt, wt, alternating fss)
- 5-5 alternating 2
- 7-7

Deadline for application is June 15th. Late application Sept 15th. This Policy is only available for Joint custody families. If there is a question of Custody then the old rules apply and the child will be bussed to the address that's on the child's file.

8.) Treasurer Report

There was a motion to set aside \$100.00 for the speaker John Robertson at the "Raising Resilient Kids" night. Motion by Megan/Carla. No oppositions.

There was \$300.00 leftover from the Holiday Elves community outreach money. There was a motion to redirect the money to the Education Foundation line item in the school budget. Jeff will approve the spending of the \$300.00. Motion by Megan/Sara, no oppositions.

9. Council/School Newsletter

There was a discussion about what a joint newsletter might look. What do you want to accomplish? What is the purpose? Will there be a theme?

10. Festival update

The CES/KES Community Festival will take place at CES this year, on Wed Jun 10th. We will invite the SRO officer, and Angela from the WOCRC. There will be more details to follow after March break and the organizing committee has met.

11. Campbell's Labels

Due to the lack of interest from KES parents/staff, the Campbell's initiative will be ended.

12. PRO Grant

The deadline for application is mid May. Sara will apply for the grant. She is looking at applying for a grant to help parents and kids connect under the “Technology in the Classroom” theme. At the April council meeting, the final motion will be approved.

13. Staff Luncheon Update

Date: May 15th. Theme: “A World of Fun” Ethnic dishes will be encouraged.

Book Fair Update:

In order for the French book fair company to support our book fair, they need us to guarantee \$1500.00 in net sales. We made approximately \$500.00 in sales at the Spring book fair. We are not even close to reaching the expectation. We will instead, receive one container full of French books from Scholastic. There will not be the usual French selection. The feedback from teachers from the past book fairs, has been that there is a lack of quality French books. Most of the books are translated from English. We will proceed as is with a small offering of French books.

14. Adjournment 8:55pm

Next meeting – Wed April 22, 2015

